



Manalapan-Englishtown Board of Education

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District Policy

5200- ATTENDANCE (M)

Section: Students
Date Created: May, 2001
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M

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25, every parent, guardian, or other person having control and custody of a child between the ages of six and sixteen shall cause the child to regularly attend school. The Board of Education requires students enrolled in the school district attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of the State.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6 and for the purposes of this Policy and Regulation 5200, a student's absence from school will be excused; or unexcused that counts toward truancy.

Students that are absent from school for any reason are responsible for the completion of assignments missed because of their absence. A student who is absent from school for observing a religious holiday shall not be deprived of any award, eligibility, or opportunity to compete for any award, or deprived of the right to take an alternate test or examination that was missed because of the absence provided there is a written excuse of such absence signed by the parent.

Prolonged or repeated absences, excused or unexcused, from school or from class, deprive students of the educational and classroom experiences deemed essential to learning. A pupil must be in **attendance** for one hundred sixty-five or more school days in order to be considered to have successfully completed the instructional program requirements of the grade/course of which he/she is assigned.

A waiver of these **attendance** requirements may be granted for good cause by the school Principal upon recommendation of a review committee, appointed by him/her, and consisting of representative staff, including pupil service personnel and classroom teachers.

In recommending the granting of a waiver of this **attendance** requirement, the review committee shall consider the nature and causes of all the absences rather than only those in excess of the one hundred sixty-five days. Documentation of the nature and course of these absences shall be the responsibility of the pupil and parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

All decisions of the review committee will be submitted to the Superintendent for his/her final approval.

The Board of Education recognizes exceptional **attendance** for all students who are not absent from school more than three (3) times in a given year.

Students shall be subjected to the school district's response for unexcused absences that count toward truancy during the school year as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6(a)4 and Regulation 5200.

Unexcused absences from school or from classes within the school day may subject a student to consequences that may include the denial of a student's participation in co-curricular activities and/or athletic competition. Repeated absences from school interfere with efforts of this Board and its staff in the maintenance of good order and the continuity of classroom instruction and such absences may result in the removal of the student from a class or course of study.

The Superintendent shall calculate and monitor the average daily **attendance** rate for the district and for each school in the district. Whenever the average daily **attendance** rate does not meet the New Jersey Department of Education requirements the Superintendent or designee shall develop a district improvement plan to improve student **attendance** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:30-5.2.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14; 18A:38-25

N.J.S.A. 34:2-21.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.6; 6A:32-8.3

Note: Italicized and underlined language is added at the discretion of the Board of Education.

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